

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00645 171817Z

70

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 DRC-01 /074 W

----- 025502

R 171655Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4082

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USUN NEW YORK 879

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0645

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: MERORO TRIAL RECESSED

REF: CAPE TOWN 493

1. TRIAL OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA PEOPLES' ORGANIZATION (SWAPO) NATIONAL CHAIRMAN DAVID MERORO WAS RECESSED OCTOBER 16 IN WINDHOEK AFTER THREE DAYS OF TESTIMONY. IN ADDITION TO EMBOFF, PROCEEDINGS WERE ATTENDED BY SWEDISH, BRITISH, AUSTRALIAN, AND GERMAN DIPLOMATIC OBSERVERS. TRIAL WILL BE RESUMED JANUARY 13.

2. TESTIMONY GIVEN OCT 14-16 INVOLVED TRIAL-WITHIN-A-TRIAL OVER ADMISSABILITY OF STATEMENT MADE BY MERORO ON DATE OF RELEASE FROM DETENTION, JULY 15. ON THAT DAY POLICE ASKED HIM IF HE HAD PERMISSION TO POSSESS COPY OF BANNED PUBLICATION. MERORO ANSWERED "NO." PROSECUTION CONTENDS THIS IS ADMISSION OF POSSESSION, WHILE DEFENSE ARGUES THAT MERORO DID NOT MAKE STATEMENT "FREELY, VOLUNTARILY, UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CAPE T 00645 171817Z

AND IN HIS SOUND SENSES." TESTIMONY WAS GIVEN BY MERORO

ALLEGING ILL-TREATMENT BY POLICE, AND PSYCHOLOGIST  
TESTIFIED FOR DEFENSE DESCRIBING DEBILITATING EFFECT  
ON MERORO OF MORE THAN FIVE MONTHS SOLITARY CONFINEMENT.

3. JUDGMENT ON ADMISSABILITY WILL BE GIVEN JAN 13, AS  
WELL AS DECISION ON PROSECUTION REQUEST TO RE-OPEN ITS  
CASE AND CALL FURTHER WITNESSES. MERORO FREE ON BAIL  
PENDING RESUMPTION OF TRIAL.  
HURD

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRIALS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 OCT 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974CAPET00645  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740296-0287  
**From:** CAPE TOWN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19741040/aaaabhvw.tel  
**Line Count:** 70  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** CAPE TOWN 493  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 NOV 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06 NOV 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <07 FEB 2003 by cunninfx>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NAMIBIA: MERORO TRIAL RECESSED  
**TAGS:** PINS, WA, SWAPO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005